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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/813,090	03/21/2001	Takuji Uneyama	0033-0697P	1387

2292 7590 01/20/2004

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EXAMINER
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PAN, DANIEL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2183

DATE MAILED: 01/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/813,090

Applicant(s)

UNEYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3, 4 and 6-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3, 05/18/01
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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Claims 1-8 are presented for examination.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1,2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) and (b) as being anticipated by Yamasaki et al. (5,539,916).

2. As to claim 1, since neither the applicant's specification nor the claim distinguishes the self-synchronization from non-self-synchronization, the claimed language "self-synchronous" is assumed to be any synchronous type system.

Applicant is welcome to provide feedback in the next response. Yamasaki disclosed a synchronous system as claimed including at least :

a) transfer control circuit [17] transferring a first pulse [DRQ] applied from a preceding stage (see the I/O stage) to a subsequent stage (see the output of circuit 17) as a second pulse [BRQ] based on an instruction signal instruction enabling or disabling of the transfer (see the BAK command signal to the circuit 17 for enabling the circuit 17 in col.3, lines 36-47);

b) a pulse control circuit [10][11] receiving data transfer request pulse signal [DRQ] as the first pulse from the transfer control circuit [17] in the preceding stage to output a plurality of data transfer request pulse signals (see the BRQ pulse signals in

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fig.2, and fig.4, see the plurality of flip-flops bitable multivibrators in col.3, lines 18-20) as the second pulse in the subsequent stage (see the output of the circuit 17).

3. As to claim 2, Yamasaki also included data number setting means for setting the number of the data transferred (e.g. see the count up counter 9 in col.4, lines 10-18).

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) and (b) as being anticipated by Tsuboi et al. (5,140,582).

5. As to claim 5, Tsuboi disclosed a synchronization circuit including at least :

a) data transmission path for holding a data packet based on a clock signal (not explicitly shown, but must have, otherwise would not work) applied from a synchronous circuit (see the successive packets written into buffer 31 in col.23, lines 40-53);

b) data numbering detecting means[counter 38] for detecting the number of data based on output packet information field in the data transmission path (see fig.17, 31, see col.23, lines 40-53, see also col.24, lines 6-16 for the frame number);

the transfer control circuit [33] outputting a transfer pulse request [transfer request frame] corresponding to the number of data , in response to the detection of the number of data (e.g. see the generation of the transfer request which included the packet frame number in col.24, lines 28-43).

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6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
7. Fujioka (4,692,917) is cited for the background teaching of the transfer requests based on the number of data (e.g. see col.9, lines 7-18).
8. Claims 3,4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. None of the prior art of record teaches the further and combined features of the detailed functional connections of the first logic , second logic, storage , gate and the transfer circuits as claimed.
9. Claims 6-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. None of the prior art of record teaches further features of the copying instruction in the instruction field included in the data packet.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dan Pan whose telephone number is 703 305 9696.

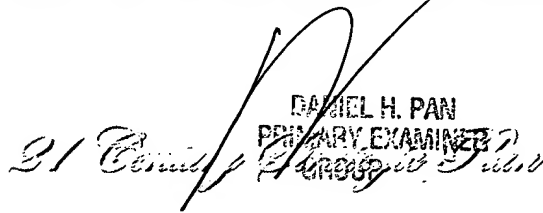
The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chan, can be reached on 703 305 9712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is are:

- a) before final 703 746 7239;
- b) after final 703 746 7238;
- c) Customer Service 703 746 7240.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 305 3900. USPTO Web site can be reached at <http://www.uspto.gov> for general inquiry.

  
DANIEL H. PAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
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